

(d) The criteria laid down for inclusion of drugs under price control do not distinguish between companies of Indian origin and others.

[Translation]

Education Programmes for OBCs

3316. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for launching education programmes for the welfare of Other Backward Castes/Classes from the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the Central assistance sanctioned/ released till date?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal from the State Government of U.P. for the establishment of residential Schools for imparting proper Education to the students belonging to Backward Classes on the pattern of Navodaya Vidhyalaya has been received. Presently no such scheme is being implemented by the Government of India. However, a scheme for establishment of residential Schools for boys & girls belonging to Backward Classes has been approved for implementation during the IXth Five Year Plan. The Ministry is in the process of formulating the scheme.

[English]

Amendment in Cooperative Laws

3317. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the cooperative laws to ensure the smooth functioning of cooperatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) A proposal is under consideration to amend the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 to make the functioning of cooperative societies more democratic and

autonomous. State Cooperative Acts can be amended by the State Governments since "Cooperative Societies" is a State subject.

[Translation]

Safety of Statues of National Leaders

3318. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the recurrence of Mumbai like incidents of desecration of the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the country;

(b) whether instructions have been issued to the States to contain the happening of the such incidents;

(c) whether the Government propose to enact any legislation for installation, maintenance and safety of statues of the national leaders in order to avoid Mumbai like incidents in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) In view of the recent incidents of violence in Mumbai city where trouble started following the alleged desecration of Dr. Ambedkar's statue by unidentified miscreants, the Government have alerted all State Governments and UT Administrations to take appropriate measures to prevent occurrence of such incidents.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Corruption Cases

3319. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of corruption, dishonesty and assets disproportionate to the income of civil servants investigated by the Vigilance Department of Ministry in 1995-96;

(b) the number of officers involved therein Grade-wise;

(c) the number of complaints received for corruption and dishonesty during the said period and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Vigilance Department initiate action *suo moto* against the staff suspected to be dishonest and corrupt; and

(e) whether the Ministry have made any review of the functioning of powers of the vigilance section under their control and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) As a sequel to some complaints, investigations were undertaken relating to corruption and possession of assets disproportionate to the known source of income, against 3 Class-I Officers of the Ministry. However, after investigation, the cases were closed as no substance was found in the complaints.

(c) No such complaints were received during 1995-96 in respect of the employees working in the Ministry.

(d) There is no bar to initiating *suo moto* action against the suspected dishonest and corrupt officials.

(e) No such review has been undertaken.

Fish Landing Sites

3320. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to update the techno feasibility studies done on potential landing sites for fish on the coast of Orissa State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the economic potential of each such site?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

In order to update the Master Plan, in October, 1996, the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery, Bangalore, in collaboration with the State Government of Orissa, have carried out pre-investment studies on probable fishing harbours and fish landing centres and short listed the following sites for carrying out detailed techno-economic studies including model studies, wherever necessary. As per present pre-investment studies, the data on potential of the proposed sites is summarised as follows:

	Name of Fishing Harbour Site proposed	District	Fish Catch in MT	No. of fishing vessels operating	No. of Fishermen	No. of Active Fishermen	No. of Villages
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Dhamra Stage-II	Bhadrak	2048	250	18,744	5,527	1
2.	Chudamani	Bhadrak	3803	543	11,669	6,006	1
3.	Bahabalpur	Balasore	9509	650	8,000	3,000	1

Transportation Charges on Foodgrains

3321. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flour Mills in Jammu and Kashmir region to whom wheat was supplied during 1996-97 and the rates at which the wheat was supplied in the State;

(b) the expenditure incurred by FCI for transporting of foodgrains and sugar during each of the last three years;

(c) the rates at which the transportation charges of foodgrains from Jammu to Srinagar are being paid by FCI;

(d) the reasons for supplying wheat and rice at higher rates in Jammu than in Kashmir Valley; and